

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAID PURCHASING ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Oxygen Providers
Pharmacists
Managed Care Organizations

Memo # : 10-43
Issued: June 23, 2010

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medicaid Purchasing Administration
(MPA)

For information, contact:
1-800-562-3022, option 2, or go to:
<http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/contact/default.aspx>

Subject: Oxygen Program: Fee Schedule and Coverage Table Updates, Prior Authorization, and Expedited Prior Authorization Changes, and Clarification of Prescription Renewal Policy

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2010, the Department of Social and Health Services (the Department) will:

- Update the *Oxygen Program Fee Schedule*;
- Update the Coverage Table in the *Oxygen Program Billing Instructions*;
- Replace the prior authorization (PA) requirement for pressure support ventilators with an expedited prior authorization (EPA) requirement;
- Add an EPA number for “fish” saline vials;
- Discontinue EPA numbers 870000903, 870000909 and 870000928; and
- Clarify prescription renewal policy.

Fee Schedule Updates

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2010, the Department will update the *Oxygen Program Fee Schedule*. To view these changes go to the Department/Medicaid Purchasing Administration (MPA) web site at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/RBRVS/Index.html#O>

Bill the Department your usual and customary charge.

Updated Billing Instructions

The Department will update the Coverage Table in the *Oxygen Program Billing Instructions* on pages E.23-E.24, E.41-E.42, and E.47-E.49. You may view/download the new billing instructions on the Department/MPA web site at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov> (click the ***Billing Instructions and Numbered Memorandum*** link).

Pressure Support Ventilators – Change in Authorization Requirement

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2010, the Department will require EPA instead of PA for pressure support ventilators Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code E0463. In order to receive payment, providers must follow the Department's EPA process. See the Department/MPA *Oxygen Program Billing Instructions*, EPA # 870000000 in Section E.

If the client has no clinical potential for weaning, the EPA is valid for 12 months.

If the client has the potential to be weaned, then the EPA is valid for 6 months.

All of the following criteria must be met in order to use this EPA:

- The client must be under the age of 18 and currently using a pressure support ventilator;
- The client must be able to take spontaneous breaths; and
- There must be a physician order for the pressure *support* setting, and the client must be utilizing the ventilator in the pressure *support* mode.

New EPA Number

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2010, the Department will cover “fish” saline vials (3-5 cc). Coverage is limited to 200 units per client every 30 days. In order to receive payment, providers must follow the Department's EPA process. See the Department/MPA *Oxygen Program Billing Instructions*, EPA # 870001264 in Section E.

Discontinued EPA Number – 870000903

Upon implementation of ProviderOne, do not use EPA # 870000903 for a humidifier heater with temperature monitor and alarm. Instead, prior authorization will be required for clients with tracheostomies, but who are not ventilator dependent.

For ventilator dependent clients, use the appropriate code and modifier combination below:

HCPCS Code	Brief Code Description	Code-Modifier Combination
E0450	Vol control vent invasive int	E0450 RR-KX
E0460	Neg press vent portabl/statn	E0460 RR-KX
E0463	Press supp vent invasive int	E0463 RR-KX
E0472	RAD w/backup invasive intrfc	E0472 RR-KX

Discontinued EPA Number – 870000909

Upon implementation of **ProviderOne**, do not use EPA # 870000909 for adult or pediatric disposable resuscitator bags. Instead, use HCPCS code S8999, as outlined below. Coverage is limited to 1 per client every 6 months.

Discontinued EPA Number	Replacement HCPCS Code	Brief Code Description
870000909	S8999	Resuscitation bag

Discontinued EPA Number – 870000928

Upon implementation of **ProviderOne**, do not use EPA # 870000928 to report sterile water or sterile saline, 1000 ml. Instead, use HCPCS code A4217, as outlined below. Coverage is limited to 100 per client every 30 days.

Discontinued EPA Number	Replacement HCPCS Code	Brief Code Description
870000928	A4217	Sterile water/saline, 500 ml

Prescription Renewal Clarification

The continued use of an oxygen delivery system requires a prescription every 6 months.
[see WAC 388-552-220]

For all other respiratory care items, a new prescription must be obtained every 12 months.

How Can I Get Department/MPA Provider Documents?

To download and print Department/MPA provider numbered memos and billing instructions, go to the Department/MPA website at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov> (click the ***Billing Instructions and Numbered Memorandum*** link).